

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 3-4, 34, 35, 38 and 40-41, such that the status of the claims is as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A solid cleaning composition, comprising:

- (a) one or more functional ingredients including at least one of a chelating agent; a sequestering agent; an inorganic detergent; an alkaline source; an organic detergent; a surfactant; ~~a cleaning agent~~; a rinse aid; a bleaching agent; a sanitizer; an anti-microbial agent; an activator; a detergent builder; a filler; a defoaming agent; an anti-redeposition agent; an optical brightener; a dye; an odorant; a secondary hardening agent; a solubility modifier; a pesticide; a bait for pests; or mixtures or combinations thereof; and
- (b) a solid binding agent distributed throughout the solid cleaning composition for binding the one or more functional ingredients, the solid binding agent comprising hydroxyethylethylenediaminetriacetic acid (HEDTA) and water, wherein a ratio of HEDTA to water by weight is at least about 53:1, and with HEDTA constituting about 25+5% to about 93% by weight of a total weight of the solid cleaning composition, and water constituting at least about 5% by weight of the total weight of the solid cleaning composition.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the ratio of HEDTA to water by weight is at least about 63:5:1.

4. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the HEDTA constitutes about 30+7.5% to about 93% by weight of the total weight of the solid cleaning composition.

5-9. (Canceled)

10. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition further comprises sodium tripolyphosphate.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition further comprises a linear alcohol.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition further comprises a linear alkylate sulfonate.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition further comprises an alkali metal salt.

17. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition further comprises an alkali metal silicate.

18. (Previously presented). The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition includes less than a weight ratio of about 20.3:1 of tripolyphosphate over HEDTA to water.

19-22. (Canceled)

23. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is extruded to form a solid block.

24. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is formed into a solid mass having a weight in the range of 50 grams or less.

25. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is formed into a solid mass having a weight in the range of 50 grams or greater.

26. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is formed into a solid mass having a weight in the range of 500 grams or greater.

27. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is formed into a solid mass having a weight in the range of 1 kilogram or greater.

28. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is cast into a solid shape.

29. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is extruded into a solid shape.

30. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is formed into a solid shape.

31. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the solid is in the form a pellet.

32. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is in the form of a solid block formed within a container.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) A solid cleaning composition produced by the process comprising:

providing one or more functional cleaning ingredients including at least one of a chelating agent; a sequestering agent; an inorganic detergent; an alkaline source; an organic detergent; a surfactant; ~~a cleaning agent~~; a rinse aid; a bleaching agent; a sanitizer; an anti-microbial agent; an activator; a detergent builder; a filler; a defoaming agent; an anti-redeposition agent; an optical brightener; a dye; an odorant; a secondary hardening agent; a solubility modifier; a pesticide; a bait for pests; or mixtures or combinations thereof;

providing hydroxyethylethylenediaminetriacetic acid (HEDTA) such that the HEDTA constitutes about ~~25~~⁵% to about 93% by weight of a total weight of the solid cleaning composition;

providing water, such that the water constitutes at least about 5% by weight of the total weight of the solid cleaning composition, and such that a ratio of HEDTA to water by weight is at least about ~~5~~³:1; and

admixing the one or more functional cleaning ingredients, the HEDTA, and the water such that the HEDTA and water form a solid binding agent distributed throughout the solid cleaning composition for binding the one or more functional cleaning ingredients within the solid cleaning composition.

35. (Currently Amended) The solid cleaning composition of claim 34, wherein the ratio of HEDTA to water by weight at least about ~~6~~³:5:1.

36. (Canceled)

37. (Canceled)

38. (Currently Amended) A method of forming a solid cleaning composition, the method comprising:

providing one or more functional cleaning ingredients including at least one of a chelating agent; a sequestering agent; an inorganic detergent; an alkaline source; an organic detergent; a surfactant; ~~a cleaning agent~~; a rinse aid; a bleaching agent; a sanitizer; an anti-microbial agent; an activator; a detergent builder; a filler; a defoaming agent; an anti-redeposition agent; an optical brightener; a dye; an odorant; a secondary hardening agent; a solubility modifier; a pesticide; a bait for pests; or mixtures or combinations thereof;

providing hydroxyethylethylenediaminetriacetic acid (HEDTA) such that the HEDTA constitutes about ~~25~~5% to about 93% by weight of a total weight of the solid cleaning composition;

providing water, such that the water constitutes at least about 5% by weight of the total weight of the solid cleaning composition, and such that a ratio of HEDTA to water by weight is at least about ~~5~~3:1; and

admixing the one or more functional cleaning ingredients, the HEDTA, and the water such that the HEDTA and form a solid binding agent distributed throughout the solid cleaning composition for binding the one or more functional cleaning ingredients within the solid cleaning composition.

39. (Canceled)

40. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 38, wherein the ratio of HEDTA to water is at least about ~~63~~5:1.

41. (Currently amended) The method of claim 38, wherein the HEDTA constitutes about ~~30~~7.5% to about 93% by weight of the total weight of the solid cleaning composition.

42-46. (Canceled)

47. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein the composition further comprises sodium tripolyphosphate.

48. (Canceled)

49. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein the composition further comprises a linear alcohol.

50. (Canceled)

51. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein the composition further comprises a linear alkylate sulfonate.

52. (Canceled)

53. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein the composition further comprises an alkali metal salt.

54. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein the composition further comprises an alkali metal silicate.

55. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38, wherein the composition includes less than a weight ratio of about 20.3:1 of tripolyphosphate over HEDTA to water.

56-59. (Canceled)

60. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein the composition is extruded to form a solid block.

61. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein the composition is formed into a solid mass having a weight in the range of 50 grams or less.

62. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein the composition is formed into a solid mass having a weight in the range of 50 grams or greater.

63. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein the composition is formed into a solid mass having a weight in the range of 500 grams or greater.

64. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein the composition is formed into a solid mass having a weight in the range of 1 kilogram or greater.

65. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein the composition is cast into a solid shape.

66. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein the composition is extruded into a solid shape.

67. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein the composition is formed into a solid shape.

68. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein the solid is in the form of a pellet.

69. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein the solid composition is in the form of a solid block formed within a container.